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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/810,534	03/19/2001	Masahiro Machida	108973	.6709

25944 7590 01/29/2007 OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC P.O. BOX 19928 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320	**EXAMINER** KE, PENG

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2174	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/29/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/810,534	MACHIDA ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Peng Ke	2174

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>17 November 2006</u>.

2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL.** 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) <u>1,3-7 and 9-22</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) <u>1, 3-7, and 9-22</u> is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

This action is responsive to communications: Amendment, filed on 11/17/06.

Claims 1, 3-7, and 9-22 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 7, 13, 16, 18, 19, 20,

and 22 are independent claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 3-7, 9-14, 16-18, and 20-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Bleizeffer US Patent 6,11,720 in view of Wehmeyer US Patent 5,543,857.

As per claim 1, Bleizeffer teaches an operating method for sequentially performing

setting for plural items in a predetermined order, the method comprising:

Sequentially displaying, on a display device, plural setting frames provided to the plural

items; (figure 9, each operation on the left side of the frame is an item) and

Displaying all of the plural items in a single frame of the display device when one of the

plural setting frames is displayed, (figure 9, the window is a single frame) wherein items which

have been already set along with their status(figure 18, column 13, lines 15-55; Jobs are also

information parameters set by the user), items which are being set along with status to choose

from, and items which have been assigned and not yet been set are display on the single frame of

the display device so as to be distinguishable from one another. (column 2, lines 44-61; figure

18, column 13 lines 15-55; Jobs completed are items with parameters set. Jobs are that running

are items being set. Jobs that are ready to run are items not yet been set)

However, Bleizeffer fails to teach displaying items with their parameter.

Wehmeyer teaches displaying items with their parameter. (figure 4, items, "mute", "TV

only" and "Stereo")

It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include

Wehmeyer's teaching method of Bleizeffer in order to provide user with an intuitive object

oriented guide which naturally, and in a non-confusing fashion, led the viewer to the correct

control for accomplishing his task.

As per claim 3, Bleizeffer and Wehmeyer teach the operating method as claimed in

claim1. Bleizeffer further teaches wherein values which have been set are displayed for the items

which have been already set. (figure 13, column 54-55; The new default parameters are the

values already set by the user.)

As per claim 4, Bleizeffer and Wehmeyer teach the operating method as claimed in claim

1. Bleizeffer further teaches wherein an operation of display a setting frame for an item which

has been already set is allowed to be carried out when one of the plural setting frames is

displayed. (column 11, lines 31-column 12, lines 10)

As per claim 5, Bleizeffer and Wehmeyer teach the operating method as claimed in claim

4. Bleizeffer further teaches wherein the setting frame for the item which has been already set is

displayed, the setting for the item is carried out, and the setting frame being displayed is

automatically restored to a previous setting frame which is displayed just before setting frame for

the item which has been already set is displayed. (column 11, lines 31-column 12, lines 10; The

display of the current default value is the display of automatically restored value)

As per claim 6, Bleizeffer and Wehmeyer teach the method of claim 5. Bleizeffer further

teaches wherein when the setting frame is restored to the previous setting frame, a state which

has been just previous set is maintained. (column 11, lines 31-column 12, lines 10)

As per claims 7 and 9-12, they are of similar scope to claims 1 and 3-6 respectively, and

are rejected under the same rationale.

As per claim 13, it is rejected with same rationale as claim 1. Supra.

As per claim 14, Bleizeffer and Wehmeyer teach an operating method for sequentially

performing setting for plural items in predetermined order to perform setting for a processor, the

method comprising the steps of:

Carrying out a processing operation of the processor on the basis of the contents set for

the plural items (figure 9, each operation on the left side of the frame is a item)

Displaying all the plural items in a single frame of a display wherein items which have

been already set along with their status (figure 18, column 13, lines 15-55; Jobs are also

information parameters set by the user), items which are being set along with status to choose

from, and items which have been assigned; (column 2, lines 44-61; figure 18, column 13 lines

15-55; Jobs completed are items with parameters set. Jobs are that running are items being set.

Jobs that are ready to run are items not yet been set) and

Items which have been assigned and not yet been set are displayed in the single frame of

the display so as to be distinguishable from one another; and

Maintaining the content set for the plural items. (column 8, lines 10-28)

However, Bleizeffer fails to teach displaying items with their parameter.

Wehmeyer teaches displaying items with their parameter. (figure 4, items, "mute", "TV

only" and "Stereo")

It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include

Wehmeyer's teaching method of Bleizeffer in order to provide user with an intuitive object

oriented guide which naturally, and in a non-confusing fashion, led the viewer to the correct

control for accomplishing his task.

As per claim 16 Bleizeffer and Wehmeyer teach an operating method for sequentially

performing setting for plural items in predetermined order to perform the setting for a processor,

the method comprising:

Enabling provision of instruction by a user for all the settings for the plural items to be

initial settings; (figure 9, each operation on the left side of the frame is a item) and

Displaying all of the plural items in a single frame of a display when one of a plural

setting frames is displayed, wherein all of the items which have bee n already set along with their

set status, items which are being set along with status to choose from, (column 2, lines 44-61;

figure 18, column 13 lines 15-55; Jobs completed are items with status set. Jobs are that running

are items being set. Jobs that are ready to run are items not yet been set)

and items which have been assigned and not yet been set are displayed in the single frame

of the display so as to be distinguishable from one another. (figure 9, the window is a single

frame)

However, Bleizeffer fails to teach displaying items with their parameter.

Wehmeyer teaches displaying items with their parameter. (figure 4, items, "mute", "TV

only" and "Stereo")

It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include

Wehmeyer's teaching method of Bleizeffer in order to provide user with an intuitive object

oriented guide which naturally, and in a non-confusing fashion, led the viewer to the correct

control for accomplishing his task.

As per claim 17, Bleizeffer and Wehmeyer teach the operating method as claimed in

claim 16. Bleizeffer further teaches wherein the instruction is provided on an initial frame.

(figure 9, the instruction on the right side of the frame is the initial instruction.)

As per claim 18, Bleizeffer teaches an operating device for sequentially performing

settings for plural items in predetermined order to perform setting for a processor, the device

comprising:

A holding unit that holds contents set for the plural items after the processing operation

of the processor is carried out on the basis of the contents set for the plural items; (column 8,

lines 10-28)

A single frame of a display displaying all of the plural items when one of a plural setting

frames is displayed, (figure 9, the window is a single frame) wherein all of the items which have

been already set along with their set status, (figure 18, column 13, lines 15-55; Jobs are also

information parameters set by the user) items which are being set along with status to choose

from, and items which have assigned and not yet been set are displayed in the single frame f the

display so as to be distinguishable from on another. (column 2, lines 44-61; figure 18, column 13

lines 15-55; Jobs completed are items with status set. Jobs are that running are items being set.

Jobs that are ready to run are items not yet been set)

However, Bleizeffer fails to teach displaying items with their parameter.

Wehmeyer teaches displaying items with their parameter. (figure 4, items, "mute", "TV

only" and "Stereo")

It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include

Wehmeyer's teaching method of Bleizeffer in order to provide user with an intuitive object

oriented guide which naturally, and in a non-confusing fashion, led the viewer to the correct

control for accomplishing his task.

As per claim 20, it is rejected with the same rationale as claim 16. Supra.

As per claim 21, it is of the same scope as claim 17. Supra.

As per claim 22, it is of the same scope as claim 18. Supra.

Claims 15 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Bleizeffer US Patent 6,115,720 in view of Wehmeyer US Patent 5,543,857 further in view of

Shiels, U.S. Patent 5,751,953.

As per claim 15, Bleizeffer and Wehmeyer teach the method of claim 14 (see rejection

above). They do not teach the operating method as claimed in claim 14, wherein after the

processing operation of the processor is executed, an instruction can be provided as to whether

the contents set for the plural items are maintained or the contents set are cleared.

Shiels teaches wherein after a processing operation of the processor is

executed, an instruction can be provided as to whether the contents set for the plural

items are maintained or the contents set are cleared (see Shiels, column 7, lines 32 –

35). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to incorporate the method of Shiels with the method of Bleizeffer and

Wehmeyer in order to allow a user to save or discard settings set for a particular

process.

As per claim 19, it is of similar scope to claim 15 and is rejected under the same rationale

as claim 15 (see rejection above).

Response to Argument

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 3-7, and 9-22 have been considered but

are deemed to be moot in view of the new grounds of rejection.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Peng Ke whose telephone number is (571) 272-4062. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th and Alternate Fridays 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine L. Kincaid can be reached on (571) 272-4063. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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